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COUNSELOR CONNECTION

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KEES File Reporting Process Changes

By Becky Gilpatrick, KEES Program Coordinator

The 2005 Kentucky General Assembly passed legislation that transferred administrative responsibility for the KEES program from the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) and the Council on Postsecondary Education to KHEAA. While this legislative change does not impact the way students earn KEES awards or the way they use them for college, KHEAA will take this opportunity to make a few changes to fine tune the reporting process and provide additional capabilities for your district's KEES coordinator.

Effective January 1, school districts will begin reporting KEES information directly to KHEAA instead of to KDE. Each school district will submit files through KHEAA's website. KHEAA will send a letter to your district's KEES Coordinator during the month of December announcing training opportunities on our new reporting method for the coordinator and other related personnel.

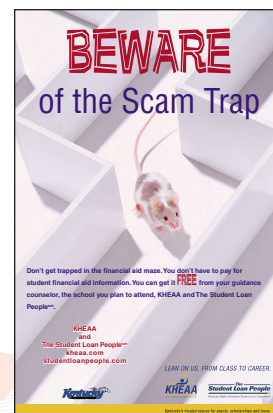
Feel free to contact me at rgilpatrick@kheaa.com or (800) 928-8926 ext. 7394 if you or your district coordinator have questions that need to be answered before training occurs in February and March.

KHEAA and The Student Loan People publish the *Counselor Connection* to share information about student financial aid, college preparation and college planning. Comments and suggestions are always welcome. Please send them to publications@kheaa.com.

Posters You Should Display

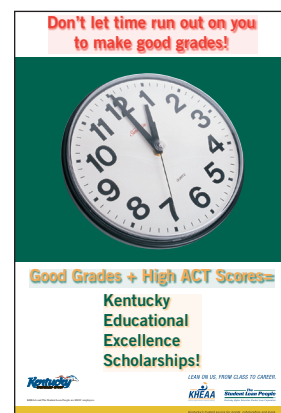
Included with this *Counselor Connection* is a poster about financial aid scams. Be sure to display this in a prominent place to remind students and their families that they do not have to pay for financial aid information. It can be obtained free from KHEAA.

If a student or parent has been charged for KHEAA information, advise them to contact the Better Business Bureau and the Office of the Attorney General, Consumer Protection Division, 1024 Capital Center Drive, Frankfort, KY 40601, toll free 888.432.9257.



Also included with this *Counselor Connection* is the Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarship (KEES) poster to help remind your students the importance of making good grades.

Please display these posters prominently in your school. If you'd like additional copies, please contact the publications area at the address or phone number at the top of the page.





It's FAFSA Time!

Encourage your students to complete the FAFSA as soon after the first of the year as possible. Students seeking college aid for the 2006–2007 school year should file the FAFSA online at www.fafsa.ed.gov as soon as possible.

The FAFSA is used to apply for most need-based state, federal and institutional aid programs, including those administered by KHEAA. Some student aid funds are limited, and those who apply early have the best chance to receive all of the aid for which they may qualify.



Students who file the FAFSA online will get their results 7 to 14 days faster than those who file by mail. Students can also file a paper FAFSA, available from high school guidance offices and college financial aid offices.

In prior years, KHEAA mailed to all Kentucky high schools a supply of the FAFSA insert that provides updated information for KHEAA-administered state aid programs and a listing of eligible Kentucky colleges. This insert is included in this edition of the *Counselor Connection*. KHEAA would appreciate it if you would make copies and distribute them to all your college-bound students.

KET College Financial Aid Call-In

Students and parents can get answers to questions about college financial aid during a call-in show telecast by Kentucky Educational Television (KET) on Tuesday, January 31, at 10 p.m. EST/9 p.m. CST.

The show is sponsored by the Kentucky Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators and will include financial aid experts from KHEAA.

A panel will discuss general financial aid issues, and phone lines will be available for call-in questions. Financial aid administrators, lenders, and KHEAA personnel will answer calls.

For more information about the call-in show, visit the KASFAA website at www.kasfaa.com/ketcallin.htm.

FAFSA
July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2007
FREE APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL STUDENT AID
OMB # 1845-0001

Use this form to apply free for federal and state student grants, work-study and loans.
Or apply free online at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

Applying by the Deadlines
For federal aid, submit your application as early as possible, but no earlier than January 1, 2006. We must receive your application no later than July 2, 2007. Your college must have your correct, complete information by your last day of enrollment in the 2006–2007 school year.
For state or college aid, the deadline may be as early as January 2006. See the table to the right for state deadlines. You may also need to complete additional forms. Check with your high school guidance counselor or a financial aid administrator at your college about state and college sources of student aid and deadlines.
If you are filing close to one of these deadlines, we recommend you file online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. This is the fastest and easiest way to apply for aid.

Using Your Tax Return
If you are supposed to file a 2005 federal income tax return, we recommend that you complete it before filling out this form. If you have not yet filed your return, you can still submit your FAFSA, but you must provide income and tax information. Once you file your tax return, correct any income or tax information that is different from what you initially submitted on your FAFSA.

Filling Out the FAFSA
Your answers on this form will be read electronically. Therefore:
• use black ink and fill in ovals completely.
• print clearly in CAPITAL letters and skip a box between words.
• report dollar amounts (such as \$12,356.41) like this:
\$ 12 356 no cents
Blue is for student information and purple is for parent information.
If you or your family has unusual circumstances (such as loss of employment), complete this form to the extent you can, then submit it as instructed and consult with the financial aid office at the college you plan to attend.
For more information or help in filling out the FAFSA, call 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243). TTY users may call 1-800-735-8913. Or visit our Web site at www.studentaid.ed.gov.

Mailing Your FAFSA
After you complete this application, make a copy of pages 3 through 6 for your records. Then mail the original of only pages 3 through 6 in the attached envelope or send it to: Federal Student Aid Programs, P.O. Box 4601, Mt. Vernon, IL 62664-0009. Do not send the worksheets on page 8; keep them for your records.
If you do not receive the results of your application—a *Student Aid Report* (SAR)—within three weeks, please check online at www.fafsa.ed.gov or call 1-800-433-3243. If you provided your e-mail address in question 13, you will receive information about your application within a few days after we process it.

Let's Get Started!
Now go to page 3, detach the application form and begin filling it out. Refer to the notes as instructed.

STATE AID DEADLINES
File Online and File On Time
www.fafsa.ed.gov
AK April 15, 2006 (date received)
AR For Academic Challenge - June 1, 2006 (date received)
For Workforce Grant - Contact your financial aid administrator.
AZ June 30, 2007 (date received)
CA For initial awards - March 2, 2006
For additional community college awards - September 2, 2006 (date postmarked)
DC June 30, 2006 (date received by state)
DE April 15, 2006 (date received)
FL May 15, 2006 (date processed)
GA July 1, 2006 (date received)
IL First-time applicants - September 30, 2006
Continuing applicants - August 15, 2006 (date received)
IN March 10, 2006 (date received)
KS April 1, 2006 (date received)
KY March 15, 2006 (date received)
LA May 1, 2006
Final deadline - July 1, 2006 (date received)
MA May 1, 2006 (date received)
MD March 1, 2006 (date received)
ME May 1, 2006 (date received)
MI March 1, 2006 (date received)
MN 30 days after term starts (date received)
MO April 1, 2006 (date received)
MT March 1, 2006 (date received)
NC March 15, 2006 (date received)
ND March 15, 2006 (date received)
NH May 1, 2006 (date received)
NJ June 1, 2006, if you received a Tuition Aid Grant in 2005–2006
All other applicants
- October 1, 2006, full & spring terms
- March 1, 2007, spring term only (date received)
NY May 1, 2007 (date received)
OH October 1, 2006 (date received)
OK April 15, 2006
Final deadline - June 30, 2006 (date received)
OR March 1, 2006 (date received)
Final deadline - Contact your financial aid administrator.
PA All 2005–2006 State Grant recipients & all non-2005–2006 State Grant recipients in degree programs - May 1, 2006
All other applicants - August 1, 2006 (date received)
RI March 1, 2006 (date received)
SC June 30, 2006 (date received)
TN For State Grant - May 1, 2006
For State Lottery - September 1, 2006 (date received)
WV March 1, 2006 (date received)
Check with your financial aid administrator for these states and territories:
AL, AK, CO, CT, HI, GA, GU, HI, ID, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NE, NH, NJ, NY, NC, ND, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI and WY.
For priority consideration, submit application by date specified.
* Applicants encouraged to obtain proof of mailing.
** Additional form may be required.

KHEAA and The Student Loan
People wish you the very
happiest of holidays. We will
be closed the following dates:



December
23 and 26 for Christmas and
December 30 and January 2
for New Year's.

College Goal Sunday . . . Coming in January

Please promote the following information to your seniors and their parents.

The Kentucky Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, in cooperation with the Lumina Foundation, KHEAA and The Student Loan Peoplesm, sponsors College Goal Sunday to help students and parents fill out the FAFSA. This event will be held **January 29**.



Financial aid professionals will be available at 19 sites in 18 Kentucky communities to walk students and their parents through the 2006–2007 FAFSA. Families attending College Goal Sunday should bring all the information needed for filling out their tax forms. Financial aid professionals will help them use that information to complete the FAFSA.

Following are the sites for College Goal Sunday. Students and parents who plan to attend should arrive by 2 p.m. For more information, call toll free 888.452.7322.

| City | State | City | State |
|------------------------|--|---------------------|--|
| Ashland | Ashland Community College J.B. Sowards Theatre 1400 College Drive | Lexington | Bluegrass Community and Technical College (LCC) 230 Oswald Building Cooper Drive |
| Bowling Green | Western Kentucky University Downing University Center, Room 226 1 Big Read Way | Louisville | Male High School Auditorium and Gheens Center 4425 Preston Highway |
| Campbellsville | Campbellsville University Student Union Building Little Auditorium 1 University Drive | Louisville | St. Stephens Church 1008 South 15th Street |
| Crestview Hills | Thomas More College Seiler Commons Administration Building 333 Thomas More Parkway | Madisonville | Madisonville Community College Byrnes Auditorium Hatley Building 750 North Laffoon Street |
| Crestwood | South Oldham High School Cafeteria 5900 South Highway 329 | Morehead | Morehead State University Crager Room 3rd Floor Adron Doran University Center University Boulevard |
| Elizabethtown | Elizabethtown Community and Technical College Central Regional Postsecondary Education Center, Room 505 610 College Street Road | Owensboro | Kentucky Wesleyan College Winchester Center Rogers Hall 3000 Frederica Street |
| Frankfort | KHEAA Paul P. Borden Conference Room 100 Airport Road | Paducah | West Kentucky Community and Technical College Crounse Hall, Room 101 4810 Alben Barkley Drive |
| Hazard | Hazard Community and Technical College Expo Center, Room 123 B One Community College Drive | Prestonsburg | Big Sandy Community and Technical College Johnson Building, Room 102 One Bert T. Combs Drive |
| Hopkinsville | Hopkinsville Community College Auditorium Gallery 720 North Drive | Richmond | Eastern Kentucky University Student Services Center Park Drive |
| | | Somerset | Somerset Community College Cafeteria, Student Commons 808 Monticello Street |



Kim Dolan named newest outreach counselor

Springfield native Kim Mattingly Dolan has joined KHEAA and The Student Loan People as outreach counselor in Jefferson County.

A 1997 graduate of Washington County High School, Dolan will provide college planning and financial aid information to students, parents and guidance counselors in Jefferson County.

Kim received a bachelor's degree in management from Western Kentucky University in 2001 and was a financial aid specialist with Education Management Corporation in Houston, San Diego and Louisville.



Apple iPod Shuffle Giveaway!

Starting in January any of your students who have not created an online account at GoHigherKY.org will have a chance to win an Apple iPod Shuffle. A drawing will be held from all the students who set up an account each month in 2006 and a winner will receive an Apple iPod Shuffle. The first winner will be awarded in February and will be drawn from the names of those who register in January.

GoHigherKY.org is the Web portal that guides your students through the entire college preparation experience, from early planning, selection, application and admissions to financial aid.

This is a win-win deal. Not only will they have access to great college information, they might even win an iPod.



LEAN ON US, FROM CLASS TO CAREER.



Kentucky's trusted source for grants, scholarships and loans.